

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

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R 191357Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6061

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: STATUTE ON AZOREAN AUTONOMY DELIVERED

1. AZOREAN REGIONAL JUNTA MEMBER JOSE PACHECO DE ALMEIDA INFORMED AMBASSADOR FEB 18 THAT HE HAD HAND DELIVERED TO GOP JUNTA'S DRAFT STATUTE ON AZOREAN AUTONOMY.

2. PACHECO SAID STATUTE WOULD LEAVE CONDUCT OF FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENSE MATTERS TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BUT WOULD GIVE AZORES CONTROL OF OWN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. DRAFT INCLUDES PROVISIONS FOR SEPARATE AZOREAN CURRENCY AND ISLAND CONTROL OF MONETARY POLICY.

3. PACHECO SAID THAT AZOREANS WOULD BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE ON SOME PROVISIONS OF DRAFT, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT EFFECTIVE
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CONTROL OF ISLAND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MUST REMAIN IN AZOREAN HANDS.

4. PACHECO ADMITTED THAT AZOREANS LACKED THE ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERTISE TO DEVISE ADEQUATE PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ARCHIPELAGO. HE SUGGESTED THAT FUTURE USG AID TO PORTUGAL MIGHT TAKE THE FORM OF PLANNING ASSISTANCE IN THE AZORES.

5. COMMENT: PACHECO'S REMARKS INDICATE THAT AZOREANS WILL BE WILLING TO COMPROMISE ON MORE EXTREME DEMANDS (E.G. FOR OWN CURRENCY) IN RETURN FOR GOP ACCEPTANCE OF PREMISE THAT AZORES SHOULD MANAGE OWN ECONOMY.
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